

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 7775

BILL NUMBER: HB 2031

DATE PREPARED: Mar 5, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Mar 5, 2001

SUBJECT: Child Fatality Review Teams.

FISCAL ANALYST: Kathy Norris

PHONE NUMBER: 234-1360

FUNDS AFFECTED: X

**GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill allows for the establishment of a nine-member Child Fatality Review Team on a county or regional basis to review the sudden, unexpected, or unexplained death of a child. The bill requires the Division of Family and Children to provide training to local Child Fatality Review Teams and to compile an annual report concerning child fatalities. The bill also addresses issues of public access to meetings and records of Child Fatality Review Teams. It makes a technical correction in current law.

Effective Date: (Amended) July 1, 2001, January 1, 2002.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) The bill requires the Division of Family and Children to provide training to local child fatality review teams. The bill also requires that the Division collect and document information surrounding the deaths of children that are reviewed by local child fatality review teams. The bill specifies the parties that must receive the information collected by the Division and that an annual report be made available to the public. The Division reports that the requirements of this bill can be performed within the current level of appropriations.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill allows for the formation of nine-member Child Fatality Review Teams on a county or regional basis. In order to establish a county or regional Review Team, the legislative body of each participating county must cast a majority of votes in favor of establishing the Review Team. If a Review Team is established, the legislative bodies must also adopt an ordinance for the appointment and reappointment of the members of the Team. It has been suggested that the formation of a local or regional child fatality review team may result in eliminating some duplication of effort by individual specialists looking at these cases in isolation.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services, Division of Family and Children.

Local Agencies Affected: County Coroners, local emergency service and law enforcement personnel.

Information Sources: Norma Selby, State Department of Health, 233-7573.